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# BOROUGH OF FALMOUTH



# ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

V. E. WHITMAN, B.SC., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

AND

**Sanitary Inspector**

A. HEY, F.R.S.I., F.S.I.A.

**FOR THE YEAR ENDING**

**31st December, 1953**



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## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1953

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THE MAYOR OF FALMOUTH (Councillor T. L. MORRIS)

Chairman : Alderman T. C. WILLIAMS

Vice-Chairman : Councillor E. M. FROST

Alderman H. B. NATION

Councillors B. J. E. BELCHER

V. A. S. BONE

J. H. CONDY

G. V. DAVEY

P. G. LOBB

M. E. NUNN

A. E. OSBERG

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## STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

*Medical Officer of Health :*

V. E. WHITMAN, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

*Sanitary Inspector :*

A. HEY, F.R.S.I., F.S.I.A.,

Sanitary Inspector's Certificate, The Royal Sanitary Institute.  
Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate, The Royal Sanitary  
Institute, Certificate Qualifying for Membership of The  
Royal Sanitary Institute, Testamur Institute of Public  
Cleansing.

*Assistant Sanitary Inspector :*

G. BARNARD

*Clerk :*

Miss L. M. DAWE



BOROUGH OF FALMOUTH

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# Annual Report

of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year Ending December 31st, 1953.

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Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the health of the Borough of Falmouth in 1953.

Too much must not be made of rates based on such small figures as those we have to deal with here but it is satisfactory that the Birth and Death Rates are both better than the National figures and the Infant Mortality Rate is the lowest so far achieved in this town. There is no doubt at all that these very excellent figures are largely due to the slum clearances done between 1935 and 1939. The removal of the small remnant of Falmouths' slums is unlikely to affect future figures very much but we have every reason to expect improved figures in due course as a result of the Council's post war building programme.

Another benefit we can reasonably expect from the improved housing situation is a considerable reduction in Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Also contributory to this end is the Cornwall County Council's scheme for vaccinating school leavers with B.C.G. Neither of these measures can produce dramatic or early results but combined with improved case finding and modern methods of treatment they can in the course of a decade or so effect the practical elimination of the disease.

I should like in conclusion to acknowledge my appreciation of the help and consideration I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and express my thanks to Mr. Hey and his staff for their loyal co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

V. E. WHITMAN,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## FALMOUTH

### Statistics and Social Conditions

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	1,893
Estimated population, 1953	...	...	...	...	16,490
Estimated population, 1931	...	...	...	...	12,910
Inhabited houses, 1953	...	...	...	...	4,719
Inhabited houses, 1931	...	...	...	...	2,916
Rateable value, 1953	...	...	...	...	£172,012
Product of penny rate	...	...	...	...	£687 8 3
Houses built or building since 1945	...	...	...	...	538
Families on waiting list for houses	...	...	...	...	601
Inhabited houses left from 1935 slum clearance programme	...	...	...	...	85
Rainfall, 1953	...	...	...	inches	28.00
Rainfall, average of past 80 years	...	...	...	inches	44.00
Sunshine, 1953	...	...	...	hours	1865
Sunshine, average of past 80 years	...	...	...	hours	1697

### Vital Statistics

#### *Live Births*

Males 135	Females 117	...	...	Total	252
Registrar General's "Area Comparability Factor"	...	...	...	...	1.04
Birth rate, per 1,000 population—Falmouth	...	...	...	...	15.9
Birth rate, per 1,000 population—England and Wales	...	...	...	...	15.5

#### *Still Births*

Males 6	Females 1	...	...	...	7
Still birth rate, per 1,000 all births—Falmouth	...	...	...	...	27.0
Still birth rate, per 1,000 all births—England and Wales	...	...	...	...	22.4

#### *Deaths*

Males 91	Females 112	...	...	...	203
Registrar General's "Area Comparability Factor"	...	...	...	...	0.86
Death rate, per 1,000 population—Falmouth	...	...	...	...	10.6
Death rate, per 1,000 population—England and Wales	...	...	...	...	11.4



*Deaths of Infants under 1 year*

Males 2	Females 2	...	...	...	Total	4
Infant mortality rate, per 1,000 live births—						
Falmouth	...	...	...	...		15.9
Infant mortality rate, per 1,000 live births—						
England and Wales	...	...	...	...		26.8

*Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks*

Males 2	Females Nil	...	...	...		2
---------	-------------	-----	-----	-----	--	---

**Birth and Death Rate since 1936**

				<i>Infant Mortality</i>		
<i>Year</i>			<i>Birth Rate</i>	<i>Death Rate</i>	<i>Rate</i>	
1936	...	...	12.8	14.4	46.2	
1937	...	...	15.3	14.3	52.0	
1938	...	...	12.3	13.6	59.5	
1939	...	...	13.7	14.8	58.5	
1940	...	...	13.1	13.4	49.8	
1941	...	...	16.5	12.6	36.9	
1942	...	...	16.2	13.6	41.7	
1943	...	...	18.6	14.6	56.6	
1944	...	...	20.4	13.9	53.3	
1945	...	...	20.0	14.1	16.5	
1946	...	...	20.4	13.5	33.6	
1947	...	...	18.6	12.7	23.0	
1948	...	...	15.6	12.9	26.4	
1949	...	...	16.4	14.6	46.9	
1950	...	...	14.8	11.1	33.3	
1951	...	...	15.1	10.8	33.2	
1952	...	...	14.4	9.5	26.3	
1953	...	...	15.9	10.6	15.9	

## ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

	1952	1953
Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	4	2
Tuberculosis, other ... ..	—	2
Syphilitic diseases ... ..	1	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	1	—
Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—
Measles ... ..	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	7	6
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	7	8
Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	4	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	2	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	18
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ... ..	1	2
Diabetes ... ..	4	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	24	28
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	21	27
Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	5	6
Other heart disease ... ..	43	38
Other circulatory disease ... ..	7	8
Influenza ... ..	—	1
Pneumonia ... ..	3	6
Bronchitis ... ..	2	8
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	6	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	2	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	—	2
Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	2	8
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	3	3
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	—
Congenital malformation ... ..	1	—
Other defined and ill defined diseases ...	14	17
Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	—	—
All other accidents ... ..	3	3
Suicide ... ..	—	2
Homicide and operations of war ... ..	—	—
All Cases ... ..	183	203

## Deaths in Age Groups

				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
0+	...	...	...	2	2	4
1—4	...	...	...	—	1	1
5—14	...	...	...	—	—	—
15—24	...	...	...	1	—	1
25—44	...	...	...	2	3	5
45—64	...	...	...	15	24	39
65—74	...	...	...	42	26	68
75+	...	...	...	29	56	85
				<hr/> 91	<hr/> 112	<hr/> 203

75.4% of all deaths were of persons over 65 years of age.

The vital statistics are very satisfactory. The birth rate is up on 1952 and the infant mortality rate down. There were 20 more deaths than in 1952 but at 10.6 the death rate is still well below that for the whole country. Of the deaths under 1 year of age 3 were in the present state of our knowledge unavoidable. The fourth was due to acute miliary tuberculosis one of the main causes of which was living in an overcrowded caravan. The female death in the 1—4 year group was due to tubercular meningitis and here again housing conditions were a contributory factor.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICE

### 1. Clinics

<b>Infant Welfare</b>	Attendances 2,714	Sessions 101
	Average per session 26.9	

<b>Mothercraft</b>	Attendances 60	Sessions 12
	Average per session 5	

#### Dental

		<i>Expectant &amp; Nursing Mothers</i>	<i>Pre-School Children</i>	<i>School Children</i>
Inspected	...	34	74	2,071
Requiring treatment	...	25	74	1,651
Persons treated	...	25	74	985
Attendances	...	82	151	2,067
Made dentally fit	...	12	29	960

### 2. Ambulance Service

		1952	1953
Ambulances	... ..	2	2
Utilecons	... ..	2	2
Patients carried, ambulances	...	2,823	2,498
Patients carried, utilecons	...	5,491	6,518
Patients carried, Hospital Car Service		668	1,009
Miles travelled, ambulances	..	24,163	21,781
Miles travelled, utilecons	... ..	36,325	38,568
Miles travelled, Hospital Car Service		9,534	8,866

### 3. Home Help Service

Help was given in their homes to 5 maternity and 57 other cases.

### 4. After-Care Grants

Grants of free extra nourishment were made on the recommendation of the Chest Physician to 5 sufferers from tuberculosis.

### 5. Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory in Truro examined and reported on 115 samples of ice cream during the year.

## 6. Home Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting.

Miss Margaret Gray, Assistant County Nursing Officer, reports : "*Staff Changes.* Miss Evans left Falmouth to be married and two nurses came to Clare Terrace to fill the existing vacancies.

A high light of 1953 was the invitation to one of the Royal Garden Parties which was extended to Miss E. K. Sherford who has been a Queen's Nurse for 20 years all of which have been spent in the service of the public in Falmouth.

All members of the staff collaborate in the work of helping old people. Any Falmouth people in the Barncoose Geriatric Unit are visited monthly. During these visits arrangements are discussed for the return home of those considered ready for discharge and active help is given in getting the homes cleaned, fires lit and food prepared. There is a great need for lodgings for the frail aged who are unable to do their own housework but do not need hospital beds.

The B.C.G. vaccination of school leavers gave a great deal of work to the Health Visitors. The co-operation of the teaching staffs contributed considerably toward the excellent results obtained.

Our efforts to improve the personal hygiene of the school children have not been as successful as we had hoped. Despite a very determined attack a small number of persistently verminous children remain. The school nurses have made numerous visits to the homes of these children and have, in almost all cases, found infestations in the remainder of the family. These have been dealt with and for a time all has been well. Unfortunately, however, reinfestations have occurred in most of these families within 2 or 3 months of cleansing.

The Health Visitors and other staff have worked in close co-operation with Mr. Hey and Mr. Finlayson throughout the year and have received a great deal of help from them.

All the midwives are qualified to give gas and air anaesthesia and it is offered to all prospective mothers for whom the family doctor considers anaesthesia suitable."

General cases nursed	...	...	...	404
General nursing visits	...	...	...	3,887
Midwifery cases	...	...	...	149
Midwifery visits	...	...	...	4,470
Ante natal visits	...	...	...	886
Health visits to children under 5 years	...	...	...	9,808
Visits to elderly people	...	...	...	1,125

## 7. Care of the Aged and Infirm

A problem that is exercising the minds of many is the increasing proportion of old people in the population. In my experience the young folk of today are quite as ready to care for their old relatives as in the past and in the majority of cases they want no help from outside. There remain many however who for one reason or another are not receiving the care and attention that they need. The Health Visitors, District Nurses, Home Help Service and many voluntary workers are doing a great deal in this field. One handicap is the very natural reluctance that many old people have for revealing their private circumstances. There is nothing anyone can do about this except to persevere and to avoid even the slightest hint of condescension in dealing with all with whom we make contact. The most frequent difficulty is housing. Old frail people quite unable to care for themselves are often unwilling to accept help from strangers and even less willing to go into any sort of hostel or institution. Houses or flats specially designed for the old and infirm would be of value though there are many who refuse to leave the homes to which they have become accustomed. Another course which deserves a trial is the allocation at subsidised rents of houses larger than they need to young families willing to take old people as board-lodgers. Hostels and homes are the answer in some cases and I feel that more would choose to live in them if they could be persuaded to make a trial stay. Already there are many advocates of a compulsory register of old people and these are bound to become more clamorous unless it can be shown that the present voluntary attack on the problem is succeeding.

### PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Age Group	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute Paralytic		Poliomyelitis Non-Paralytic		Measles	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
— 1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	3
1— 2	—	—	4	5	—	—	—	—	20	22
3— 4	1	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	26	48
5— 9	—	1	6	5	—	—	—	—	84	90
10—14	1	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	10	4
15—24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
25 +	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	5
	2	2	15	14	1	1	1	—	145	174
Totals	4		29		2		1		319	



Age Group		<i>Acute</i>				<i>Erysipelas</i>		<i>Puerperal</i>
		<i>Pneumonia</i>		<i>Dysentery</i>				<i>Pyrexia</i>
		<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
— 5	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—44	...	1	—	—	—	—	1	2
45—64	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
65+	...	1	3	—	—	—	—	—
<hr/>								
		2	4	1	—	—	1	2
<hr/>								
Totals	...	6		1		1		2

The only epidemic disease in Falmouth during the year was measles of which there were 254 cases in the first quarter. The majority of the cases were mild and there were no serious complications.

No connection could be traced between any of the 3 cases of poliomyelitis nor were there any known cases in the vicinity. The cases were spaced at intervals of roughly a month so there might have been some connection detectable only if our knowledge of the natural history of the disease were less incomplete.

The non-paralytic case made a complete recovery of course. The boy of 15 years of age is still under treatment but is doing very well. The lady recovered so well that she had no residual paralysis though some muscles are still much weaker than normal.

The patient with dysentery incurred his infection while away from Falmouth on holiday.

## Diphtheria

There were no cases during the year.

During the year 201 children under 5 and 18 older children were immunised, 194 received booster doses.

On the 31st December, 1953, there were 1,120 children between the ages of 1 year and 5 years in Falmouth and of these 525 or 59.4% had been immunised.

## Smallpox

No cases.

	<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1—2</i>	<i>2—4</i>	<i>5—14</i>	<i>15+</i>	<i>Total</i>
Numbers vaccinated	25	33	9	6	23	96
Numbers re-vaccinated	—	—	1	4	15	20

**Tuberculosis**

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>New Cases</i>				<i>Deaths</i>			
			<i>Non-</i>				<i>Non-</i>	
	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Pulmonary</i>	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
0+	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
1—4	...	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
5—14	...	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
15—44	...	9	12	3	—	—	—	—
45—54	...	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
55—64	...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
65+	...	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
	12	15	4	5	2	—	—	2
Totals	27		9		2		2	

On 31st December, 1953, there were 147 cases of tuberculosis on the register of which 127 were pulmonary. This represents an increase of 30 notified cases over the previous year of which 23 were respiratory. Alarming though these figures are they do not represent any sudden increase in the incidence of the disease. Most of the new cases were discovered owing to improved diagnostic methods including the use of mass radiography. A mobile mass radiography unit was stationed in Falmouth from 2nd—26th March. From 2nd—11th it was at the Falmouth Docks where only dock workers were dealt with. From 12th—26th March the unit was at the Welfare Centre where all school children born in 1939 or earlier were x-rayed. In addition members of the public attended both by appointment and at open sessions. The weather was unkind and there was some trouble with the apparatus. Attendances were however very satisfactory and the results of the visit proved its value. In all 810 school children and 3,025 adults were x-rayed; 7 active cases of tuberculosis previously unknown and 23 early cases needing observation only were discovered.

At the end of 1953 389 children had been vaccinated with B.C.G. Of this number 82 were contacts of known cases of tuberculosis and 307 were dealt with under the scheme for school leavers.



## BOROUGH OF FALMOUTH

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# Annual Report

of the BOROUGH SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year Ending December 31st, 1953

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*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Falmouth.*

31st May, 1954.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In submitting to you my 27th Annual Report on the Sanitary circumstances of the Borough, I have been guided by Circular 1/54 issued by the Ministry of Health for this purpose.

A noteworthy feature of 1953 was that the eighty-six samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, were all found to be genuine and in addition, all but one of 39 Primary samples of Milk taken by the Health Department conformed to the standard of T.T. Milk. I take this opportunity of congratulating all concerned on the results obtained.

The Council have again considered the depositing of refuse in the main streets on the night previous to collection and have decided to adopt Byelaws prohibiting the practice.

The disposal of refuse on the Cricket Field Site has been completed, which has resulted in the provision of a car park and an extension to the playing area.

In August, controlled tipping commenced at the new Tip (Trescobeas) and the provision of mechanical equipment will no doubt prove to be more hygienic and economical.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### Water Supply

I am indebted to Mr. D. H. McKerchar, Water Engineer, for the following report :—

The Falmouth Water Undertaking is Municipally owned.

The source of supply is from Gathering Grounds of gravel and peat sub-soil, into impounding and settling reservoirs. The water is subjected to (sand) pressure filtration. The filtered water is chlorinated to maintain the required standard of bacterial purity and is treated with lime to correct its corrosive tendency.

Chemical and Bacteriological analyses are taken monthly of all water in supply, and the raw water quarterly.

During 1953 the average daily consumption within the statutory area of supply was 1,228,000 gallons.

The number of Trade Supplies for the year equals 540 and the number of Domestic Supplies equals 6,600.

No new mains have been laid during the year but 1,700 lin. yards have been descaled and coated with bitumen.

The water supply in the statutory area has been entirely satisfactory (a) in quality and (b) in quantity.

Nineteen water samples were taken by the Health Department, four from houses served by the public mains and fifteen from private supplies. The samples from the main supplies were all satisfactory but six from private supplies were unsatisfactory, as a result of which three of the premises were connected to the public mains. The owners of the other three premises have been requested to take action to improve these supplies.

### **Sewerage.**

Sewage disposal is principally by sea outfalls, one at Middle Point and one discharging from a Septic Tank at Gyllngvase.

There is also a small Plant, consisting of Settling Tanks, etc., with two percolating Filters to deal with the sewage from the Swanvale, Penmere and Trescobeas Areas.

The Pumping Station referred to in my last Annual Report dealing with the Sewage in the Dracaena Avenue Area has been completed. The construction of the new main sewer in the Swanvale Valley and the outfall at Pennance Point is making good progress.

### **Drainage.**

During the year, 69 new drains were tested, first by means of Water Test, then by Smoke Test, and all finally approved.

In addition 58 yards of new 6 inch sewer and 207 yards of 6 inch surface water drains at Dracaena Avenue and The Beacon were tested and approved.

### **Closet Accommodation.**

With the exception of a very small number of Pail Closets and Privy Middens in outside areas, all are on the Water carriage and connected to the Council's sewer.

We have, however, 167 premises connected to 130 Cesspits, where no sewers are available, in addition there are two cesspits serving two caravan sites, all being emptied by an approved type of Cesspool Emptier.

## SANITARY INSPECTIONS MADE

<b>Dwelling Houses</b>					<i>Inspections</i>
Inspected for housing defects ... ..	...	...	...	...	362
Inspected after occurrence of Infectious Disease					11
Rooms disinfected ... ..	...	...	...	...	143
Inspections of Water Closets ... ..	...	...	...	...	69
Inspections of Common Passages				...	50
Inspections of new houses ... ..	...	...	...	...	203
<b>Drainage</b>					
Sewerage Inspections ... ..	...	...	...	...	31
Visits to Works in Progress ... ..	...	...	...	...	595
Water Tests applied to drains ... ..	...	...	...	...	145
Smoke Tests applied to drains ... ..	...	...	...	...	85
New drains approved after test			...	...	69
New drains disapproved ... ..	...	...	...	...	1
Old drains inspected ... ..	...	...	...	...	6
New Interceptors fixed ... ..	...	...	...	...	40
New gullies fixed ... ..	...	...	...	...	312
<b>Dairies</b>					
Dairies inspected ... ..	...	...	...	...	61
Milk Purveyor's Vehicles ... ..	...	...	...	...	39
Samples obtained for Methylene Blue Test				...	40
<b>Food Premises</b>					
Bakehouses inspected ... ..	...	...	...	...	27
Meat Shops, Stalls, etc. ... ..	...	...	...	...	83
Meat Allocation Depot ... ..	...	...	...	...	1
Cafes and Restaurants ... ..	...	...	...	...	165
Other Food Premises ... ..	...	...	...	...	190
<b>Miscellaneous Inspections</b>					
Cinemas and Music Halls ... ..	...	...	...	...	7
Public Conveniences ... ..	...	...	...	...	103
Drinking Fountains ... ..	...	...	...	...	11
Tips ... ..	...	...	...	...	247
Re Rat Destruction ... ..	...	...	...	...	1,742
Visits to Salvage Depot ... ..	...	...	...	...	29
Visits to Council Houses ... ..	...	...	...	...	16
Visits to Swanvale Sewerage Farm			...	...	34
Visits to Licensed Houses ... ..	...	...	...	...	6
Visits to Fish and Chip Shops ... ..	...	...	...	...	9
Visits to Caravan Sites ... ..	...	...	...	...	26

Vists to Farms ... ..	8
Visits to Piggeries ... ..	39
Visits to Pet Shops ... ..	7
Visits to Seamen's Lodging Houses ... ..	16
Visits to Aged and Infirm Persons ... ..	4
Inspection of Premises re Sale of Ice Cream ...	127
Inspection of Swanpool ... ..	13
Inspections re Shops Act ... ..	95
District Inspections ... ..	13
Inspections with Medical Officer of Health ...	12
Interviews with Owners, etc. ... ..	87
Interviews with Chairman ... ..	28
Interviews with Applicants for Council Houses	24
Interviews and Inspections re Overcrowding	5
Interviews re collection of Refuse ... ..	7
Interviews with Farmers and Milk Purveyors ...	26
Interviews with Owners of Hotels ... ..	2
Interviews with Builders ... ..	45
Interviews with Architects ... ..	11
Interviews re Shops Acts ... ..	39
Interviews re Mass Radiography Survey ...	96

### SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED

#### Dwelling Houses

Roofs repaired ... ..	13
Eaves, Gutters and Fall Pipes repaired ...	7
Walls repaired ... ..	2
Windows repaired ... ..	1
Defective Wash Basins repaired or renewed ...	1
Verminous Rooms disinfected ... ..	74
Floors relaid or repaired ... ..	6
Doors repaired ... ..	1
Defective Ceilings repaired ... ..	2
Defective Flues and Fireplaces repaired ...	2
Defective Cooking Stoves repaired ... ..	3

#### Water Closets, etc.

Defective Water Closets repaired ... ..	10
Defective Hopper Pans replaced by Wash-downs	3
Additional Water Closets provided ... ..	13
Cesspools emptied ... ..	775
Privy Middens abolished ... ..	1
New Cesspools built ... ..	4
Soakaway Pits abolished ... ..	3
Approach to W.C.'s made to comply with Byelaws	4

#### Drainage

Houses completely re-drained ... ..	3
Drains repaired or reconstructed ... ..	8

	19
Sink Waste Pipes repaired or disconnected ...	6
Choked Drains cleansed, repaired or relaid ...	39
Choked Gullies cleansed ... ..	5
Choked Interceptors cleansed ... ..	20
Sewers cleansed or repaired ... ..	11
Existing Drains connected to Main Sewer ...	—
Manhole covers repaired ... ..	4
Siphon Traps removed ... ..	2

#### Water Supply

Water Services repaired ... ..	2
Houses or W.C.'s provided with adequate water supply ... ..	11
Flush Cisterns repaired ... ..	6
Water Fountains repaired ... ..	4

#### Miscellaneous

Offensive Accumulations removed ... ..	5
Statutory Notices issued ... ..	—
Preliminary Notices given ... ..	161
Local Land Charges Supplementary Enquiries	228
Smoke Observations ... ..	6
Miscellaneous Inspections ... ..	809
Total Inspections made ... ..	5,429

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937

#### 1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occu- piers prose- cuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority ... ..	27	58	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	54	116	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	3	7	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	84	181	1	—



## 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) ... ..					
(a) insufficient ...	1	1	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ...	1	1	—	1	—
(c) not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	5	5	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>

## OUTWORK

### Section 110 and 111

<i>Nature of Work</i>	<i>Section 110</i>			<i>Section 111</i>		
	<i>No. of out-workers in August</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists</i>	<i>No. of prosecutions for failing to send lists</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
Wearing apparel, making, etc.	2	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

## Eradication of Vermin

One house was treated for Bed Bug Infestation, 15 houses for fleas and 6 for beetles. Seven Wasp's nests were destroyed.

## Rodent Control

In connection with the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, 186 cases were dealt with.

The baits used for prebaiting were 3 cwts of Sausage Rusk and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cwts. Barley Mash and for poisoning, Arsenic, Zinc Phosphide, Antu and Warfarin were the chief agents.

Based on the actual "takes of Poison," it is estimated that 1,396 rats and 1,197 mice were killed. 329 dead rodents were picked up.

The work done during the year included the treatment of the Council's sewers, which resulted in an estimated kill of 46 included in the above total.

Co-operation has been maintained with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Infestation Control Division and the Cornwall Agricultural Committee, Pest Department.

One full-time Rodent Operator was employed and methods of treatment were strictly in accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries' recommendations and included poisoning and trapping.

No charges were made for treatment carried out at dwelling houses.

The following table gives the particulars of the work carried out during the year:—

<i>Com-plaints</i>	<i>Inspec-tions</i>	<i>Premises treated by poison</i>	<i>Pre-mises trapped</i>	<i>Pre-mises gassed</i>	<i>Man-holes baited</i>	<i>Pre-baits laid</i>	<i>Poison baits laid</i>
193	1,742	163	3	4	89	4,305	1,104

## Housing

During the year the Local Authority built 86 houses which brings the total of Council Houses to 1,013. 25 were built privately. One war-damaged house was re-built.

As in previous years housing work has been restricted to the maintenance of houses in as reasonable a condition as possible.

Three derelict houses have been demolished.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### Milk Supply

There are fifteen farms in the Borough.

Distribution of milk was carried out by 20 purveyors, there being one distributor of Pasteurised Milk and 13 of T.T. Milk.

Forty samples of milk were taken for the Methylene Blue Test, the results being very satisfactory.

Two Supplementary and eleven Dealers' Licences to use the Special Designation, "Tuberculin Tested," were granted during the year.

### Meat and Other Foods

274 visits were made to Meat and other Food Shops and Bakehouses in connection with the inspection of food, and the following meat and other foodstuffs was condemned:

Beef	...	...	...	...	215 lbs.
Rabbits	...	...	...	...	94 lbs.
Chicken	...	...	...	...	36 lbs.
Ducks	...	...	...	...	35 lbs.
Sausages	...	...	...	...	451 lbs.
Canned Vegetables	...	...	...	...	245 lbs.
Canned Fruit	...	...	...	...	969 lbs.
Canned Meat	...	...	...	...	941 lbs.
Canned Milk	...	...	...	...	100 lbs.
Miscellaneous Canned Foods	...	...	...	...	150 lbs.
Dried Fruit	...	...	...	...	27 lbs.
Fruit	...	...	...	...	40 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	135 lbs.
Miscellaneous Foods	...	...	...	...	64 lbs.
					3,502 lbs.

Unsound foods are disposed of by burying at the Council's Tip.

The number and types of food premises in the area are as follows:

Butchers	...	...	...	17
Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	...	28
Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	...	26
Dairies	...	...	...	1
Fruit and Vegetables	...	...	...	15
Fish Dealers	...	...	...	4
Grocers	...	...	...	38
Meat Depot	...	...	...	1



The number and types of food premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 are as follows:

Sale of Ice Cream	...	...	...	67
Preparation of Sausages and preserved food				12
Preparation of Fried Potato Crisps	...			1
Fish Fryers	...	...	...	8

### Adulteration, Etc.

The County Council are responsible for the working of these Acts and Regulations and I am indebted to Mr. H. E. Rundle, Senior Inspector, Weights and Measures Department, for the following report:

### SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

<i>Article</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Adulterated</i>	<i>Result of Proceedings</i>
Agene-Free Self Raising Powder	1	1	—	—
American Popcorn	1	1	—	—
Apricot Conserve	1	1	—	—
Beef Dripping	1	1	—	—
Beef Suet	1	1	—	—
Blanc Mange Powder	1	1	—	—
Black Cherry Jam	1	1	—	—
Butter	7	7	—	—
Butter Assortment	1	1	—	—
Cherry Jam	1	1	—	—
Chicken Cutlets	1	1	—	—
Cooking Fat	1	1	—	—
Drinking Chocolate	1	1	—	—
Glace Cherries	1	1	—	—
Glucose Barley Mints	1	1	—	—
Ground Almonds	1	1	—	—
Jelly Crystals	1	1	—	—
Lemonade Powder	1	1	—	—
Lemon Curd	1	1	—	—
Lemon Squash	2	2	—	—
Milk	31	31	—	—
Marmalade	1	1	—	—
Mincemeat	1	1	—	—
Orange Squash	1	1	—	—
Peanut Butter	1	1	—	—

Pineapple Fruit Squash	1	1	—	—
Pork Sausages ... ..	1	1	—	—
Processed Cheese Spread	1	1	—	—
Pudding Mixture ... ..	1	1	—	—
Pure Dairy Cream ... ..	1	1	—	—
Puff Pastry ... ..	1	1	—	—
Raspberry Jam ... ..	2	2	—	—
Shredded Beef Suet ... ..	3	3	—	—
Strawberry Jam . ... ..	3	3	—	—
Self Raising Floor ... ..	1	1	—	—
Table Jelly ... ..	5	5	—	—
Turkey Cutlets ... ..	1	1	—	—
White Paper ... ..	2	2	—	—
Christmas Pudding ... ..	1	1	—	—
Totals ... ..	86	86	—	—

### Ice Cream

Section 14 Food and Drugs Act, 1938 and the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.), Regulations 1947 to 1952 are enforced in the Borough.

Sixty-seven premises are registered, four of which are for Manufacture and Sale, sixty-one for sale and two Wholesale Storage Depots. With a view to securing uniformity in the interpretation of the legislation affecting the Ice Cream Trade, we are administering the provisional standard of grading, based on the Methylene Blue Reduction Test.

During the year, samples of Ice Cream were obtained and submitted for examination the following table shows the results of samples submitted:

No. taken					115		
No. certified as Provisional Grade	1	98	or	85%			
No. " " " "	2	12	or	11%			
No. " " " "	3	5	or	4%			
No. " " " "	4	—		—			

### Public Conveniences

103 visits have been made to the various conveniences and the revenue received for the year ending 31st March, 1954, was £1,108 6s. 4d.

The Council have under consideration the provision of additional Public Conveniences and the improvement of the Market Strand and Custom House Conveniences.

## List of Public Conveniences in the Borough

<i>Site</i>	<i>Accommodation</i>		
	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	
Greenbank Gardens ...	1 W.C.	1 W.C.	2 Urinal Stalls
Market Strand ...	2 W.C.'s.	1 W.C.	5 Urinal Stalls
Webber Street ...	5 W.C.'s.	Nil	Nil
Moor ...	Nil	3 W.C.'s.	14 Urinal Stalls
Custon House Quay ...	2 W.C.'s.	2 W.C.'s.	5 Urinal Stalls
Castle Hill ...	Nil	1 W.C.	2 Urinal Stalls
Castle Drive ...	2 W.C.'s.	1 W.C.	2 Urinal Stalls
Cliff Road ...	2 W.C.'s.	1 W.C.	2 Urinal Stalls
Gyllingvase Beach ...	10 W.C.'s.	4 W.C.'s.	10 Urinal Stalls
Cemetery ...	1 W.C.	1 W.C.	3 Urinal Stalls
Recreation Ground ...	4 W.C.C's.	2 W.C.C's.	6 Urinal Stalls
Kimberley Park ...	1 W.C.	1 W.C.	2 Urinal Stalls
Gyllingdune Gardens ...	2 W.C.'s.	1 W.C.	3 Urinal Stalls

All these conveniences are cleansed daily, four have a Caretaker for 9 hours every week-day; two are open in the season only.

### Shops and Offices

The inspection of Shops and Offices as regards their sanitary accommodation was continued during the year, and of the 95 inspections made, 27 were in connection with closing hours.

Two complaints were received and a number of contraventions dealt with.

### Young Persons Act

Thirty-two inspections were made and four complaints investigated, but I am pleased to say that no employer was found to be working the Young Persons longer hours than was permitted under the Act.

### Camping Sites

There are four licensed Camping Sites.

The two principal camps have been provided with sanitary conveniences and washing facilities and all four are provided with the Town's supply of water and dustbins. In addition, two licenses were granted to persons to station and use caravans.

### Cinemas and Music Halls

These places of Public Amusement were inspected during the year and gave no cause for complaint. The necessary reports were made to the Local Authority for the purposes of renewal of licences.

## Pet Animals Act, 1951

Two applications were received for Licenses to keep a Pet Shop, both being granted.

### Public Cleansing

(1st April, 1953—31st March, 1954)

During the year a twice-weekly collection of House Refuse was maintained and Shops in the Main Streets collected daily.

All refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping at the new ground of the Falmouth Cricket Club up to 7th August, after which the Council's new tip at Trescobecas was brought into operation.

The following table shows the amount of Salvage materials sold during the year, as compared with previous years:

			1953 <i>Tons</i>	1952 <i>Tons</i>	1940 to 1953 <i>Tons</i>
Waste Paper	...	...	38	59	1,682
Ferrous Metals	...	...	—	5	113
Non-Ferrous Metals	...	...	—	—	3
Flattened Tins	...	...	—	—	247
Textiles	...	...	—	—	35
Bones	...	...	—	—	36 $\frac{3}{4}$
Food Waste	...	...	—	—	740
Bottles	...	...	—	—	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Jam Jars	...	...	...	—	11
Rubber	...	...	—	—	14
Total Tonnage			38	64	2,889 $\frac{1}{4}$
Value	...	...	£207	£480	£12,647

The staff consists of 17 males whole-time and the number and make of vehicle employed as follows:

One 10 cubic yard Commer Refuse Lorry (commenced 11/3/49).

One 10 cubic yard Karrier Refuse Lorry (commenced 19/7/49).

One 7 cubic yard Seddon 3-ton Diesel Refuse Lorry (commenced 1/10/51).

One 750 gallon Bedford Cesspool Emptier (commenced 1/1/49).

One  $\frac{1}{2}$  cubic yard Aveling-Barford Dumper (commenced 10/11/53)

One Bristol "22" Angledozer (commenced 17/2 54).

The number of loads of Refuse disposed of is as follows:

Karrier	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,217
Commer	...	..	...	...	...	...	995
Seddon	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,084
Morris	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Hired Lorry	...	...	...	...	...	...	70

The total cost of collections is:

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Receipts ... ..				8,646	19	1
Sale of Salvaged Materials ...	206	18	9			
Leaving a net cost of						
collection of ... ..				8,440	0	4
Cost of Disposal ... ..				2,846	17	1

This sum includes

(1) Dumper ... ..	276	17	7
(2) Angledozer ... ..	53	13	9
(3) Erection of Garage ...	283	15	11
(4) Other Equipment, Petrol and Oil, etc. ...	182	18	8

The amount of £53 13s. 9d., for the Angledozer represents the amount overspent on the loan. Loan charges will not become payable until the next financial year.

### Emptying of Cesspits

There are 130 Cesspits in the Borough, which are emptied without charge.

	£	s.	d.
The total cost of these Services amount to ...	1,523	11	0
Receipts for Hire of Cesspool Emptier ...	14	3	0
Leaving a net cost of ... ..	1,509	8	0

In conclusion, I desire to express my sincere appreciation of the support received during the year from the Health and other Committees, my best thanks to the staff for their loyalty, zeal and devotion, and for the able and energetic manner in which they have, at all times, discharged their many and onerous duties, often under very trying conditions.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. HEY,

*Sanitary Inspector.*





